

**REPORT FROM THE PARTNERSHIP MANAGER
BIRMINGHAM STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP
30th March 2006**

BSP Sustainability Audit report

The Warwick University Business School carried out an evaluation of the impact of the BSP on delivering a more sustainable Birmingham (the executive summary is attached). The report was launched 22nd March and attracted 60 delegates from across the region. The overall findings were positive, especially in relation to Leadership and Governance. The challenge will be to ensure that sustainable development principles and carbon neutrality are embedded in the rewrite of the Community Strategy.

Sustainable Procurement Innovation Project

The Sustainable Procurement Innovation Project Conference held on 8th March involved senior practitioners from most BSP board member organisations including – PCT, LSC, BCC, WM Police, WM Fire Service, Birmingham University, and BVSC. The combined procurement spend of the BSP partners that attended the event was in excess of £2 billion. The conference agreed a way forward to better align procurement to BSP priorities in order to achieve social, economic and environmental benefits for Birmingham. Discussions are continuing with Government with a view to piloting the National Sustainable Procurement Action Plan in Birmingham.

BSP Climate Change Consultation - update

The BSP Climate Change Consultation is nearing completion (31st March). There have been 13 focus groups, 8 board interviews, 2 public meetings and an online consultation. Significant information has been received along with suggestions for improved targets. The final version will go to the BSP Board in May and Cabinet in early June.

Extended Session Update

The next extended session is on infant mortality and will be held at Austin Court on 16th May, 5-8pm. Kiran Virk takes up a permanent full-time post in the Gambling Commission so it will be Sue Webb or Denise Thompson that will in touch to gauge availability. We have also been asked to run a session on 'Well-being' but a date has not been set yet.

Dr Naomi Rees
BSP Partnership Manager
22nd March 2007